

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the specification, please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 19, and ending at page 8, line 7, with the following paragraph:

The polyol or polyols used may be single monomers, oligomers, or blends. Mixtures of polyols can be used to influence or control the properties of the resulting polymer network. For example, mixtures of two polyols, one a low molecular weight, ~~rubbery~~ rigid (relative to the second) polyol and the other a higher molecular weight, more ~~rigid~~ rubbery (relative to the first) polyol. The amount of rigid polyol is carefully controlled in order to avoid making the composite too brittle (a ratio of flexible polyol to rigid polyol of between about 5 wt % and about 20 wt %, more particularly around 15 wt % has generally been found to be suitable. It is generally desirable to use polyols in liquid form, and generally in the lowest viscosity liquid form available, as these can be more easily mixed with the inorganic particulate material. So-called "EO" tipped polyols can be used; however their use is generally avoided where it is desired to avoid "frosting" of the polymer material when exposed to water.